

**Notice of Allowability**

Application No.

10/035,256

Examiner

Abolfazl Tabatabai

Applicant(s)

OGAWA, EIJI

Art Unit

2625

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to application filed on January 4, 2002.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-27.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 04 January 2002 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
  - a) ☒ All    b) ☐ Some\*    c) ☐ None    of the:
    1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
    2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
    3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
  6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
    - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
      - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
    - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

**Attachment(s)**

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),  
Paper No./Mail Date 12/26/04
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit  
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),  
Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

### **Reasons for Allowance**

1. The following is an Examiner's statement of reasons for allowance.

The prior art of record fails to teach or suggest, ultrasonic diagnosis apparatus comprising; (a) a parameter memory unit for storing the image processing condition parameters to be used in the image processing unit, in correspondence with the information of object in combination into other features and elements of claim 1; (b) a parameter memory unit for storing the image processing condition parameters to be used in the image processing unit and the transmission/reception condition parameters to be used in said ultrasonic transmitting and receiving unit, in correspondence with the information of object in combination into other features and elements of claims 6 and 23;(c) an image processing unit for executing a normalization process of the image data obtained on the basis of the echo waves received by said ultrasonic transmitting and receiving unit, in accordance with a normalization rule by using the normalization parameters calculated by said image analysis unit, and for executing image processing of the image data by using image processing condition parameters in combination into other features and elements of claims 12 and 17.

2. **Claims 1-27 are allowed.**

3. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

**Citation of Relevant Prior Art**

4. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Kamiyama (U S 6,540,676 B2) discloses ultrasonic diagnosis apparatus and operating sequence determining method of the ultrasonic diagnostic apparatus.

Ogasawara et al (U S 6,416,476 B1) disclose three-dimensional ultrasonic diagnosis apparatus.

Arima et al (U S 5,179,954) disclose ultrasonic inspection and imaging instrument.

Yamazaki et al (U S 5,497,776) disclose ultrasonic image diagnosing apparatus for displaying three-dimensional image.

Sasaki (U S 4,679,565) disclose ultrasonic diagnostic apparatus using non-linear parameters of an organ.

**Contact Information**

5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the Examiner should be directed to ABOLFAZL TABATABAI whose telephone number is (703) 306-5917.

The Examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday from 9:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the Examiner's supervisor, Mehta Bhavesh M, can be reached at (703) 308-5246. The fax phone number for organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 872-9306.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only.

For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>.

Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Abolfazl Tabatabai

Patent Examiner

Group Art Unit 2625

December 26, 2004

*A-Tabatabai*

  
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